In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 13 to 16, 20, 21, 25, 28, 29, 32 to 35 and 41 to 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,666,502 (Capps) in view of Microsoft Office Screen Dumps (Microsoft Office), and Claims 3 to 5, 11, 12, 17 to 19, 22 to 24, 30, 31 and 36 to 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Capps in view of Microsoft Office and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,936,614 (An). The rejections are respectfully traversed and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in light of the following deficiencies of the applied art.

In the present invention, an input screen is displayed for inputting a character string and a cursor is designated at a position in the input screen at which the character string is to be inserted. After the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen, a list including a plurality of registered character strings is displayed on the display and the user selects a user desired character string from the plurality of character strings displayed in the list. In response to the user's selection of the registered character string, the selected character string is automatically inserted in the input screen *at the designated position of the cursor*. Thus, the user simply places the cursor at a specific spot on the screen where they want to input the character string, and then upon selecting a string from the list, the selected string is automatically inserted at the designated position of the cursor.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a character processing method, comprising the steps of a first displaying step of displaying an input screen for inputting a character string on a display, a cursor designating step of designating, in the input screen displayed in the first displaying step, a cursor at a position on the input screen at which the character string is to be input, a second displaying

step of, after the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen in the cursor designating step, displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings on the display when a user enters an instruction to display the list, selecting, based on a user instruction, a user desired character string from the plurality of character strings displayed in the list in the second displaying step, and in response to the user's selection of the registered character string in the selecting step, automatically inserting, in the input screen displayed in the first displaying step, the selected user desired character string at the designated position of the cursor designated in the cursor designating step when the user desired character string is selected in the selecting step, wherein the inserted character string is added to image information which is to be sent to a destination.

Claims 20, 41 and 43 are apparatus, computer medium and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of designating a cursor at a position on an input screen at which a registered character string is to be input, and after the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen, displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings, whereby a user selects a string from the list and in response to the user's selection of the registered character string, the selected string is automatically inserted in the input screen at the designated position of the cursor.

Capps is seen to disclose a technique for a user to automatically fill-in data fields on a form by using a historical list. The invention of Capps is best represented by Figs. 5A and 5B and the accompanying description at column 10, line 45 to column 11,

line 13, which were relied upon in the Office Action. In Fig. 5A, an address book form 180 that is to be filled-in by a user is displayed. The form includes four data entries that are to be filled-in: Name 182, Address 188, Company 192, and Phone 196. Each date entry has a "field" associated with it. In Fig. 5A, field 184 is designated electronically in the form as <name>, field 190 is designated electronically in the form as <address>, field 194 is designated electronically in the form as <company>, and field 198 is designated electronically in the form as 198. To the left of the "Name" entry and the "Company" entry on the form, diamonds 186 and 187 are displayed. Diamond 186 is a representation that a historical list for the Name entry is available for the user, while diamond 187 is a representation that a historical list for the Company entry is available for the user. To view the historical list for the Name entry, the user clicks or touches diamond 186 with a tablet pen, whereby the historical list 200 shown in Fig. 5B is displayed. The user can then click on one of the entries in the historical list 200, whereby the selected entry is added to the <name> field 184. Thus, it is quite clear that in Capps, the user spot on the input screen where the selected name is entered on the fillable form is not a position pointed by a cursor. Rather, the user uses the pen to designate the diamond for displaying the historical list, and when the user selects an entry from the historical list, it is entered in a predetermined area of the input screen where the associated field (i.e., <name> 184) is located. Therefore, quite contrary to the assertions made in the Office Action, Capps does not teach at least the feature of designating a cursor at a position on an input screen at which a registered character string is to be input, and after the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen, displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings, whereby a user selects a string from the list and in response to the user's selection

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of the registered character string, the selected string is automatically inserted in the input screen at the designated position of the cursor.

The Outlook screen dumps have been discussed in detail in Applicant's prior responses, and in particular, Applicant has pointed out how the screen dumps simply fail to teach at least the feature of designating a cursor at a position on an input screen at which a registered character string is to be input, and after the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen, displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings, whereby a user selects a string from the list and in response to the user's selection of the registered character string, the selected string is automatically inserted in the input screen at the designated position of the cursor. Thus, the proposed combination of Capps and the screen dumps would not have resulted in the present invention.

An has also been discussed in detail in Applicant's prior responses, and An is not seen to add anything to overcome the foregoing deficiencies of Capps and the screen dumps. Particularly, An is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that, when combined with the screen dumps, would have resulted in at least the feature of designating a cursor at a position on an input screen at which a registered character string is to be input, and after the position of the cursor is designated in the input screen, displaying a list including a plurality of registered character strings, whereby a user selects a string from the list and in response to the user's selection of the registered character string, the selected string is automatically inserted in the input screen at the designated position of the cursor. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Claims 1, 20, 41 and 43, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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